

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 4-8, 10, 14-19 and 21 will have been amended to correct multiple-dependent issues. Further, the Specification will have been amended to include a paragraph referencing the currently application is a continuation-in-part of related application no. 08/676,517, filed July 2, 1996. No new matter has been entered.

Applicant believes a preliminary amendment was filed on August 18, 1998 with the USPTO, which appears not to have been recorded. In view of the above-noted amendment not having been recorded, Applicant is submitting this amendment.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections are requested in view of the instant amendments and the accompanying remarks.

Amendment Fully Supported by the Original Disclosure

The above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification. For example, claims 4-8, 10, 14-19 and 21 will have been amended to merely correct multiple-dependent issues and claims 7 and 10 will have been amended to correct grammar issues (see bottom of page 10 of the Specification). Further, the Specification will have been amended to include a paragraph referencing the currently application is a continuation-in-part of related application no. 08/676,517, filed July 2, 1996.

Further, no new issues have been raised that need further search and/or consideration, nor any question of new matter.

Accordingly, by the present remarks, Applicant submits that the rejections have been overcome, and respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the instant application.

Examiner Interview

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time and professional courtesy during the interview held on January 22, 2007. During the interview the Examiner explained that claims 4-8, 10, 14-19 and 21 have multiple-dependent issues and need to be corrected before the application can be put in condition for allowance. Applicant has amended claims 4-8, 10, 14-19 and 21 according to the above-noted comments by the Examiner, in particular, to correct the multiple-dependent issues. Applicant believes that the above-noted amendments to claims 4-8, 10, 14-19 and 21, is in accordance with the Examiner's requests to correct the multiple-dependent issues and places the application in condition for allowance.

Rejection Of Claims is Moot

Applicant submits that, in view of the instant amendment, the rejections of claims 1-21 are now moot.

In particular, Applicant notes that claims 4-8, 10, 14-19 and 21 will have been corrected for multiple-dependent issues.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Application is Allowable

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that each and every pending claim of the present invention meets the requirements for patentability under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103, and under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. Further, Applicant have submitted Terminal Disclaimers to overcome the obviousness type

double patenting rejections set forth by the Examiner while at the same time not acquiescing in the propriety of such rejections.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate allowance of each and every pending claim of the present invention.

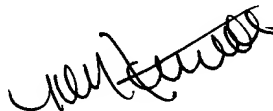
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, either taken alone or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious Applicants' invention, as recited in each of claims 1-21. The applied references of record have been discussed and distinguished, while significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
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